Welcome to our last term of kindy for 2015, where has the year gone some may ask? The children have been avid learners and have grown in so many ways during their time at kindy. It has been very exciting to welcome them back here again and it will be great to celebrate with them.

It was a distressing start to the holidays, but as I always say, good things usually come from circumstances that appear very bleak. The number of people that have offered support and encouragement has been phenomenal and greatly appreciated. The kindergarten will be reimbursed by DECD, for all of the stolen equipment and most of the items have now been purchased or ordered so that the staff team can continue to provide a well-rounded curriculum. The good news is that the IT equipment will now be updated. I would ask that you continue to support the staff team by keeping an eye on the kindergarten out of hours, if you are in the area. Please note any unusual or suspicious circumstances and contact me on 0419295705 if you are concerned, so that I am aware of any issues. I am hoping that the thieves will be identified, so that this robbery does not encourage them to repeat the pattern. Being aware of unusual circumstances will be especially important over the long January holidays, however shortly we will have an alarm installed which will improve the security of the kindergarten.

This term there are a number of exciting events planned for families so we hope you will be able to share some or all of them with us. Our Dad’s Night, Blackwood Christmas Parade, and end of year concert will give you a chance to be part of the learning adventures of the children. We are planning an exciting excursion, details to come soon as part of our celebrations.

Don’t forget to look in the Learning Journal for the daily learning of the children. The children have been sharing their knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes this week. Next week will be another Outdoor Week before the fire ban season. Our ‘Keeping Safe: Child Protection Curriculum’ will be integrated more formally into the program this term as well.

Learning about celebrations of other cultures will be a feature of the term and we will begin with Dewali (Indian) in a couple of weeks. By now you should have received the information about the Celebration Poster which we hope you will be able to make with your child about the way your family celebrates special events. They will have opportunities to show and share this at group times.

Thank you to everyone who has returned their child’s Work Book, Cynthia Meredith
Wine and Cheese Night 7pm Wed 21/10 prior to Governing Council Meeting

This week as part of Parents in Education Week we will be having a Wine and Cheese Night, which you would have received a special invitation to attend recently. We hope you will join us with your favourite bottle of wine to share. Come and meet some of the other parents and new parents for 2016, share some interesting stories with parents and the staff team.

Kindergarten class photos will soon be available for purchase

The photos which were taken of your child last term will soon be at the kindergarten for you to view. I will let you know by email as soon as they arrive and if you need to come in outside of kindy hours please let me know so I can arrange a time with you. They need to be viewed at the kindergarten and purchased before they can be taken home.

Outdoor Week---next week Monday 26th Oct---Thurs 29th Oct.

The staff team are planning another Outdoor Week but at this time of the year warm clothes will probably not be necessary. We are planning to have a fire depending on the weather of course. The children had a lot of fun last term and developed their skills with just the outside natural areas to play in so we are hoping that their skills will be improved further as we explore more deeply into the natural environment. We are hoping to venture into the ‘beyond’ to see the scrub area at the back of the school and the creek, so we will need some volunteers to accompany the group. If you are able to come on a walk in the local area and know that your child will be able to work and play independent of you, then please speak with the staff team.

Visit to the Hawthorndene Primary School assembly—Wed October 28th

During our Outdoor Week we will be visiting the school to attend the assembly as they have visitors coming from a school in New Zealand and we would like to hear some of their story. If you are able to walk with us to the school, please speak with the staff team. We will leave the kindergarten at 11:30am and return by way of the scrub at the back of the school.

CYHS health checks for pre-schoolers—now Tuesday December 1st

There will be health checks conducted by the CYHS nurse at the kindy which include a hearing test. If you would like your child to be included please speak with Tess to book an appointment time as soon as possible.

Family Portraits Day at Kindergarten Sunday November 8th—a great fund raiser

This is a great opportunity to have a photograph with all the family and makes a wonderful chance to record your History. The deal is for $15 you will receive a 10x13” (25 x33cm) framed portrait of your family. (The kindergarten receives all of this money and you will be given the option of buying more of the photos once they are processed.), Great for Christmas presents!

Appointment times are scheduled when you have paid and will be throughout the day. There must be two generations in each family portrait for the special offer and unless prearranged children can not appear in more than one family portrait but there are other combinations of family members which can be taken on the day. Professional Photographers of Australia are a South Australian company and have regularly offered this service to our kindergarten over many years. Please consider taking up this offer and inviting your friends to be part of it as well. Bookings can be made with the staff team today. Book early to avoid disappointment!!.

Annual Dad’s Night (sessional children only)—Thursday 12th November 6pm

A night of fun for all the family, it begins with a sausage sizzle, volunteer cooks and servers are needed, tea at 6pm, come as soon as you can! Sausages $2.50—Sweetcorn 50c. After tea the kindergarten children will be organised into small groups with their dads to work on a creative model using recycled materials. This is an annual event at the kindergarten and has been popular for many years. If your child’s dad is unable to attend we suggest you bring grandpa or an uncle or friend. Mums always enjoy having a chat while the models are being constructed. If you have any suitable materials please collect them and bring them to the kindy. Each group usually starts with a similar collection of materials and extra pieces to decorate are placed on a central table for special effects.
Governing Council Annual Dinner Wednesday November 18th 7pm

All parents and friends of the kindy as well as parents of pre-entry children are invited to join the staff team for the annual Governing Council Dinner which will be held in a private room at the Belair Hotel this year. Please let the staff team know if you can join with us as soon as possible so that we can reserve your place. It should be a good night a chance to reflect on all the happenings of 2015, why not arrange a babysitter now and come with your partner for this event!

Alioune Market Week Monday Nov 23rd until Friday Nov 27th

Just to let you know early as this market will have a Christmas focus, for our regular support of Alioune our World Vision sponsor child who lives in Senegal. You may like to make something with your child for the stall or bring some not needed Christmas decorations or artefacts or other household items. Don’t forget to invite your friends to come and have a look as we need some customers as well as items for sale. Baked goods are always well received.

Please share any concerns or comments with us!

Cynthia, Louise and Tess.

IS YOUR CHILD STARTING SCHOOL AT HAWTHORNDENE PS NEXT YEAR?
If so, please take the time to visit the uniform shop to check out the uniform options for your child. An expression of interest for items you might need will help us with ordering for next year.

The uniform shop is run by P&F volunteers and is located in the main school building (staff room end).

Opening hours are: TUESDAY 8:30am – 9:00am and THURSDAY 3:00pm – 3:30pm.
The uniform shop will also have a special opening during the holidays prior to the start of term 1 next year. This date will be advised later.

Thankyou,

Nicole Thomas (Uniform Shop co-ordinator)